

# k e w a

NEWSLETTER OF THE LONDON CHAPTER, ONTARIO ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

MAY, 1982

82-5

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## THE HAMILTON - SCOURGE PROJECT

Barry Lord, Director of Wentworth Heritage Village and formerly of the National Museums of Canada, will present an underwater film documentary concerning two important War of 1812 vessels which have been preserved in amazingly perfect condition at the bottom of Lake Ontario. See Cousteau's inspection of these ill-fated U.S. warships! Meeting time is 8:00 P.M. on Thursday, May 13 at the Museum of Indian Archaeology.

## EXECUTIVE REPORT

Our executive's last scheduled meeting of the season was held at the Rowcliffe residence in St. Mary's on Tuesday, April 27. Following a brief discussion of the latest O.A.S. draft constitution, considerable time was spent reviewing the publication details of our Symposium volume. Further clarification of the Society executive's position regarding the volume was deemed necessary at this point. The meeting closed with discussions on our upcoming Chapter picnic. Jim and the other executive members thank Shirley Rowcliffe for the fine hospitality!.

## SOCIAL REPORT

Many of our members attended and enjoyed the recent Canadian Archaeological Association meeting in Hamilton. The London Chapter was well represented not only by attendees but also speakers (as usual!).

Upcoming events include the

### ANNUAL CHAPTER PICNIC SATURDAY, JUNE 12     2:00 P.M.

This year's gathering is being hosted by Mr. Raymond Crinklaw. The usual excellent potluck meal is expected and entertainment will include a variety of demonstrations and competitions.

The Rochester Museum and Science Center will be hosting a *Glass Trade Bead Conference* on June 12-13. Papers describing beads from a wide variety of time periods and geographic locations will be presented. Chapter members Ian and Thomas Kenyon will be presenting *Comments on 17th Century Glass Trade Beads from Ontario*.

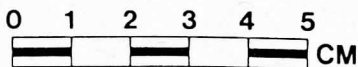
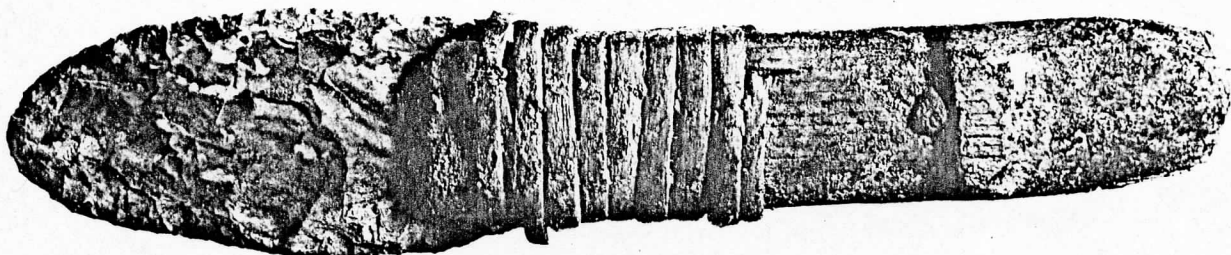
Delays in the production of this issue have yielded an unexpected bounty of research articles, which we trust our readership will find of interest. The *Innes Point* description was kindly provided by Paul Lennox. As described in this issue's second research article, the Adder Orchard site radiocarbon dates were not those expected and are themselves dissimilar. Consequently, the winner of the hotly contested 24 brown egg award for mean date prediction is difficult to assess. If the late date is discarded as unacceptable, Gary Warwick (1600 B.C.) is the winner; however, if the divergent dates are averaged (1155 B.C.), Paul Lennox (1300 B.C.) wins. The committee is prepared to refer the ultimate decision as to the award recipient to the aforementioned finalists.

## THE FOLIATE BIFACE AS KNIFE

WILLIAM FOX

The photograph below provides some convincing evidence for the function of Late Prehistoric-Historic Iroquoian foliate biface tools (see KEWA 81-5). While the illustration alone stands as an eloquent statement, some explanation concerning the excellent preservation and context of the knife is in order. This tool was excavated by Mr. Charles Wray from Burial 73 in Cemetery 2 on the Adams site in upstate New York. It had been placed on the chest of an adult male and under a copper gorget, which has preserved it. The Adams village and cemeteries are late sixteenth century Seneca sites.

Onondaga chert was used to fashion the blade which has been set in a cedar (?) wood handle and bound with wood fibre (ash or basswood?). Some black residue in the haft may be pitch used to further secure the blade. The binding begins at a circular hole just before a ridge located towards the proximal end of the handle. It then proceeds to the distal end of the haft, is wrapped back toward the proximal end and finished through a split in the wood handle - all illustrated in the photograph below. The artifact catalogue number is 258.



Our thanks to Mr. Charles Wray and the Rochester Museum and Science Centre for permission to photograph this exceptional specimen.

## SOUTHWESTERN ONTARIO RADIO-CARBON DATES III

WILLIAM FOX

As the title suggests, this is the third in a series of reports on radiocarbon dates from Southwestern Ontario archaeological sites. The volume of such dates since the 1980 article (KEWA 80-6) is an indication of the pace of research in our region of the province. For instance, we have progressed from the four  $C^{14}$  dates available for the Younger Phase of the Younger Tradition in 1980 to a total of seventeen at present! These and other dates have greatly assisted in clarifying the early Late Woodland culture history of the region with the co-existing Younger and Ontario Iroquois Traditions.

Dates for earlier cultural periods have been slow in coming, with the PaleoIndian, Archaic and Middle Woodland complexes weakly to totally unrepresented. This situation should be partially alleviated with the submission of samples from Archaic components on the Innes, Thedford II and Crawford Knoll

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sites, as well as a PaleoIndian charcoal sample from Thedford II. Both of the latter samples will have to await the construction of the new accelerator radiocarbon dating facilities at the University of Toronto, whose establishment has already been delayed a year due to a difficulty in obtaining parts.

Among Late Woodland groups, the Princess Point Complex, and Late Prehistoric representatives of both the Ontario Iroquois and Younger Traditions remain poorly dated. The Ministry hopes to submit a Princess Point sample this year from the Stratford Flats site in the Grand River valley, while the Museum of Indian Archaeology plans to have a series of dates run for the Lawson village. More  $C^{14}$  dates are expected as a result of London Chapter, O.A.S. excavations on the Harrietsville village this season, while both Ron Williamson and the Ministry will be running additional dates for local Glen Meyer villages. There are now a total of thirty-six Glen Meyer dates! It is unfortunate that we have only a dozen or so dates for the somewhat contemporary Pickering sites to the east (KEWA 80-9).

An identical format to our previous two articles (KEWA 78-6, 80-6) is used for the dates listed below. No MASCA or other correction formulas have been applied to the calendrical dates reported. Such manipulation is left to the individual submitters of the samples. As usual, asterisks beside a calendrical date indicate a result unacceptable to the researchers (we have tried to gauge Wintemberg's probable reaction to dates DIC-563 and 564 for the Lucier site!).

## LATE ARCHAIC

### *Broadpoint*

Adder Orchard Site (AgHk-16)

Unit 1 Feature 1 (wood)

Unit 2 Feature 1 (wood)

I-12,480

I-12,481

I. Kenyon (1981)

3850+90

2360+90

1900 B.C.

410 B.C.\*

# EARLY WOODLAND

Boyd Lakefront Site (AdHc-1)  
Unit A Feature 1

NMC-1217

W. Fox (1980)  
2795 $\pm$ 115 845 B.C.

# LATE WOODLAND

*Younge Phase Younge Tradition*  
Cherry Lane Site (AaHp-21)

Feature 20 (wood)

I-11,902

P. Reid (1980)  
850 $\pm$ 75 1100 A.D.

Robson Road Site (AaHp-20)

Feature 8 (wood)

I-12,268

P. Reid (1981)  
950 $\pm$ 80 1000 A.D.

Feature 55 (wood)

I-12,269

1050 $\pm$ 80 900 A.D.

Bruner-Colasanti Site (AaHq-8)

Feature 51 (wood)

I-11,828

P. Lennox (1980)  
810 $\pm$ 75 1140 A.D.

Feature 77 (wood)

I-11,829

855 $\pm$ 75 1095 A.D.

Feature 169 (wood)

I-11,830

880 $\pm$ 75 1070 A.D.

Feature 283 (wood)

I-11,831

715 $\pm$ 75 1235 A.D.

Dymock Sites (AeHj-2)

Feature 12 (wood)

I-12,149

W. Fox (1981)  
945 $\pm$ 80 1005 A.D.

Feature 28 Layer 1 (wood)

I-12,478

940 $\pm$ 80 1010 A.D.

Feature 29 Layer 2 (wood)

I-12,150

910 $\pm$ 80 1040 A.D.

Feature 50 Layer 2 (wood)

I-12,151

850 $\pm$ 80 1100 A.D.

Feature 60 (wood)

I-12,152

890 $\pm$ 80 1060 A.D.

Feature 63 Layer 3 (wood)

I-12,479

1030 $\pm$ 80 920 A.D.

*Wolf Phase Younge Tradition*

Lucier Site (AbHs-1)

VIII F 25017 (wood)

DIC-562

W. Wintemberg (1935)  
500 $\pm$ 125 1450 A.D.

VIII F 25022 (wood)

DIC-564

1880 $\pm$ 285 70 A.D.\*

VIII F 25057 (wood)

DIC-563

Modern \*

*Glen Meyer Ontario Iroquois Tradition*

Cooper Site (AgHb-18)

Feature 3 (wood)

I-11,826

W. Fox (1980)  
750 $\pm$ 75 1200 A.D.

Feature 21 (wood)

I-11,779

800 $\pm$ 75 1150 A.D.

Feature 33 (wood)

I-11,841

730 $\pm$ 75 1220 A.D.

Kelly Site (AfHi-20)

Feature 102 (wood)

I-12,061

R. Williamson (1980)  
850 $\pm$ 80 1100 A.D.

Yaworski Site (AfHi-21)

Feature 26 (wood)

I-12,059

R. Williamson (1980)  
890 $\pm$ 80 1060 A.D.

Feature 71 (wood)

I-12,060

830 $\pm$ 80 1120 A.D.

Boyd Lakefront Site (AdHc-1)

Unit A Feature 3 (wood)

I-11,827

W. Fox (1980)  
720 $\pm$ 75 1230 A.D.

Calvert Site (AfHg-1)

Feature 126 Layers 2/4 (wood)

I-12,173

W. Fox (1981)  
820 $\pm$ 80 1130 A.D.

Feature 147 Layer 5 (wood)

I-12,174

860 $\pm$ 80 1090 A.D.

Feature 151 Layers 3/4/5 (wood)

I-12,175

800 $\pm$ 80 1150 A.D.



Feature 216 Layer 2 (wood)	I-12,476	740+75	1210 A.D.
Feature 241 Layer 4 (wood)	I-12,176	900+75	1050 A.D.
<i>Middleport</i>			
Edwards Site (AfHi-23)		R. Pearce (1981)	
Square 52P-495 Feature 1 (wood)	I-12,278	690+100	1260 A.D.
Square 530-470 Feature 1 (wood)	I-12,279	700+80	1250 A.D.
<i>Prehistoric Neutral</i>			
Suraras Springs Site (AiHd-8)		J. Redmond (1980)	
Feature 3 (wood)	GSC-3363	560+60	1390 A.D.
Harrietsville Earthwork Site (AfHf-10)		J. Keron (1981)	
Midden 1 (wood)	I-12,477	600+75	1350 A.D.
Wolfe Creek Site (Achm-3)		G. Foster (1980)	
Feature 5 (wood)	RL 1486	580+110	1370 A.D.
Feature 17 (wood)	RL 1487	340+100	1610 A.D.
Feature 18 (wood)	RL 1488	320+100	1630 A.D.
Post Hole J 130 (wood)	RL 1489	440+100	1510 A.D.
Post Hole U 21 (wood)	RL 1490	290+100	1660 A.D.

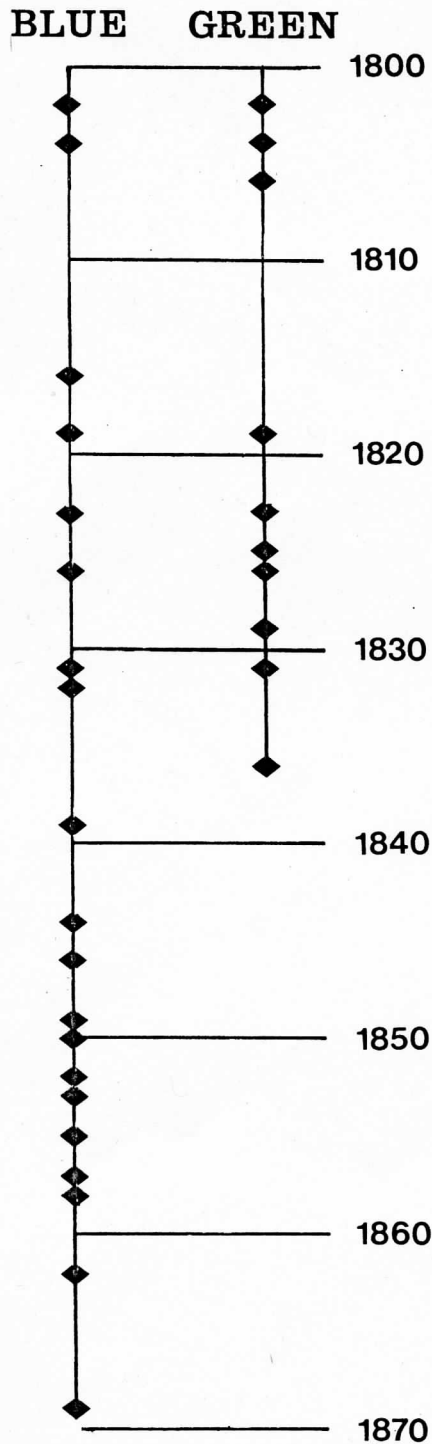
### NEWS FLASH!

The Calvert village rescue project was completed on June 4. An abundance of new information was obtained as the remaining northern portion of the site was exposed and recorded. The contracting dual palisade line was uncovered, as well as a complete Phase 1 longhouse. Several reconstructable clay vessels were discovered and a number of interesting artifact associations - tool kits? - recorded. While the totals are not yet in, roughly 4,000 - 5,000 post holes were mapped, plus 333 features!

One of the most startling statistics is that, over the 1981 and 1982 field seasons, 2137 man/hours were spent on the site; of which, 1420 were volunteered by Chapter members and the general public! Thank you one and all, and a special thanks to the landowner/developer Mr. Keith Davidson of Dorchester for his continued support and patience.....

# A NOTE ON THE DECLINE AND FALL OF BLUE AND GREEN EDGED CERAMICS

IAN KENYON



Between 1770 and 1870 one of the most popular decorative techniques on refined white earthenwares was called "shell edged" or, more usually, "edged". Edged ceramics were dinner ware rather than tea ware, so this technique is seen on plates, platters, tureens, and bakers, not on cups, saucers, bowls, and teapots. The "edge" itself is a moulded border which has been painted blue or green, although red or other colours are sometimes seen.

The particular patterns used on the edged plates vary through time, and these changes will be discussed in a forthcoming note. On southwestern Ontario archaeological sites, early 19th century deposits often contain both green and blue edged, but by the mid-19th century there is usually only the blue. The early decline in the use of green edge can be plotted using historical documents such as the probate inventories attached to wills (i.e. lists of goods found in the estate of the deceased) and general store records (e.g. stock inventories, invoices from wholesalers, day books). The chart to the left is compiled from Ontario historical records. The diamonds indicate years in which a written document mentions blue or green edged ceramics.

In the first few decades of the 19th century, green and blue edge were about equally popular. For example, Angus Makintosh's (Sandwich) stock inventory of 1819 lists 91 blue and 77 green edged plates and dishes. But by the 1830's, the green edge rapidly declined in popularity. So far, the latest reference to green edged is 1836. This is an invoice from an Essex County merchant to Robert Coatsworth of neighboring Kent County, and the "6 green edged plates" listed may well be old stock. The blue edge continues to be quite popular into the early 1860's. For example, an 1862 invoice sent by the wholesalers J. Skinner and Co. (Hamilton) to a general store in Clinton includes 3 dozen edged plates among the 8 dozen ordered. The latest record of blue edge is 1869, when 15 plates are listed in a stock inventory for a North Bay store.



## INNES POINTS

SIZE: Innes points may be described as medium sized points ranging from 32 to 50 mm in length ( $\bar{x}$  = 39.5 mm), 17 to 31 mm in maximum width ( $\bar{x}$  = 21.9 mm) - usually corresponding to shoulder width, and from 5 to 8 mm in thickness ( $\bar{x}$  = 6.3 mm).



SHAPE: In outline, the points have convex lateral blade edges, slightly sloping to slightly barbed shoulders and an expanding stem base with a convex to straight basal edge. In cross section lenticular forms are most common.

FLAKING: Innes points tend to be coarsely flaked, but the primary shaping of the point rarely leaves any broad surfaces unscared. Marginal secondary retouch is usually discontinuous, being used primarily to remove edge sinuosity. One of the more

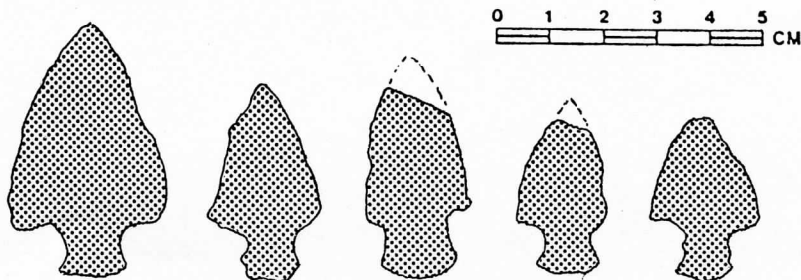
notable characteristics of these points is their basal grinding, which often extends up the lateral edges of the stem.

RAW MATERIAL: At the type site Onondaga chert is the predominate material type used, though Kettle Point chert and (Pennsylvania?) jasper examples were also noted.

DISTRIBUTION: Innes points are amongst the numerous Archaic forms which have received little attention in the literature. As with many of the other styles, their lack of outstanding formal characteristics inhibits their recognition amongst mixed assemblages of more classic types. Aside from those 40 points and point fragments from the type site a few kilometers west of Brantford Ontario, other examples are reported from the Grand River drainage and westward in Southwestern Ontario. Examples from the Butterfield site in Bay County Michigan (Wobst, 1968) are also notable.

AGE & CULTURE AFFILIATIONS: Charcoal samples from the Innes type site are presently being prepared for submission for radiocarbon dating. A Late Archaic date of c. 1000 to 2000 B.C. is expected.

REMARKS: Innes points exhibit formal similarities and probable temporal affinities to Late Archaic Crawford Knoll points (Kewa 80-3), to the Haldimand complex at the Bruce Boyd site (Spence and Fox, 1979; Spence, Williamson and Dawkins, 1978) and to an unnamed Late Archaic manifestation at the Butterfield site in Michigan (Wobst, 1965). With regard to these affinities, Innes points are longer and slightly wider. Basal grinding is also noted at the Butterfield site and only rarely occurs at Crawford Knoll. Similarities are also noted with points classified as Brewerton and Feeheley points in Pennsylvania, Ohio and Michigan (Kinsey, 1972; Fitting, 1970) and particularly with some of the Pennsylvania variants of Perkiomen broadspears (Kinsey, 1972); all of which display similar forms and are often basally ground, but tend to be wider than Innes points.



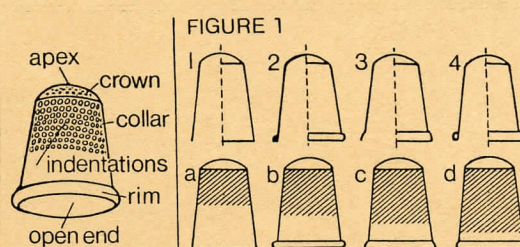


# NINETEENTH CENTURY NOTES

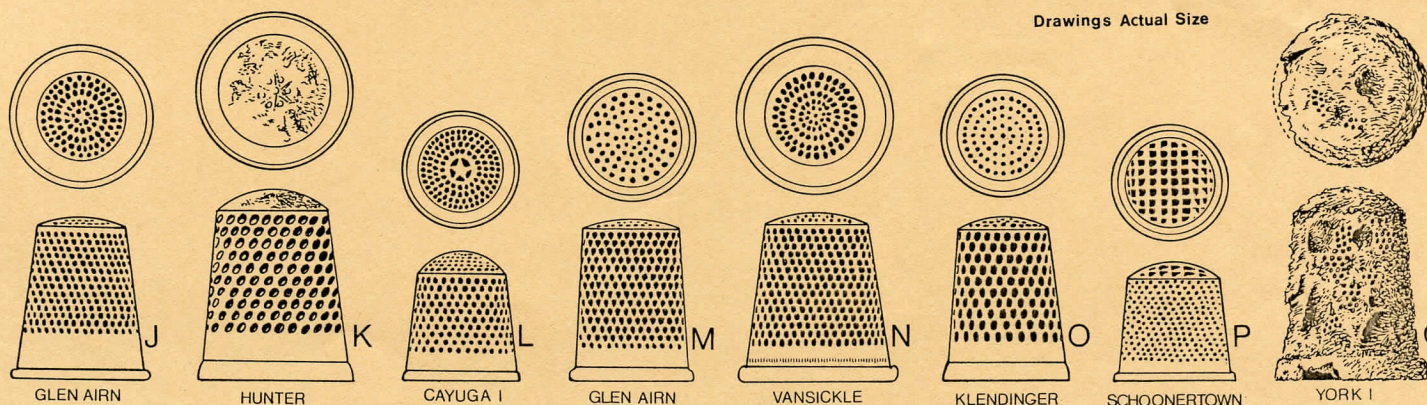
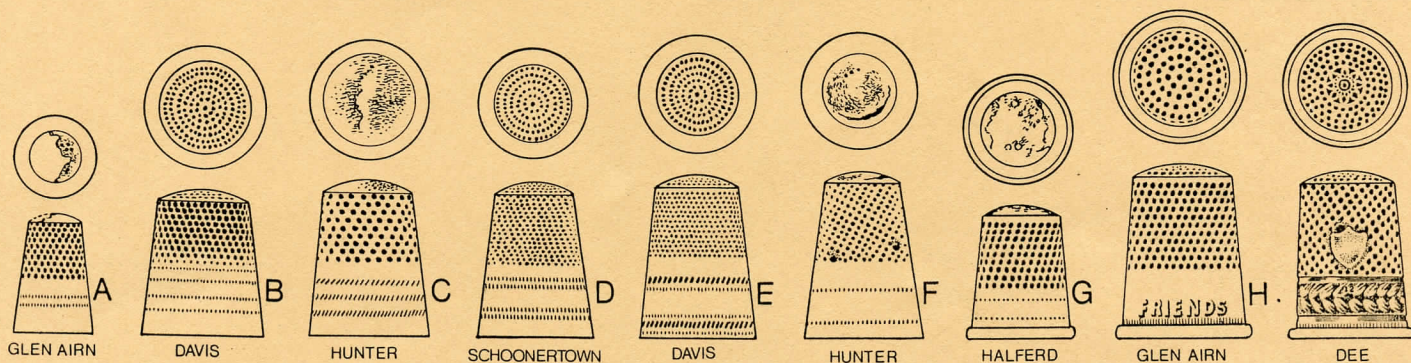
## METAL SEWING THIMBLES

THOMAS KENYON

Illustrations below are thimbles from 10 Ontario sites, ranging in age from 1810 to 1870. Example D and P are from Schoonertown (J.G. McMinn col.) in Simcoe County, while the remainder are from sites in Haldimand and Brant Counties. The majority of these thimbles - which represent a selection and not a complete typology - were made from brass. The exceptions are examples H, made from white metal, and Q, made from steel. Examples C, F and P display traces of a gold wash, while D was originally silver plated. Hughes (1961) reports that; "cast brass thimbles were made throughout the 18<sup>c</sup> but by 1790 they were stamped from rolled brass plate, indentations and all". Four rim styles occur (Fig. 1). 1-straight (A-F). 2-solid band (G, I, J, M, P & Q). 3-turned out (K, L & O). 4-rolled over (H & N). Indentations on collars ranged from 9 to 17 rows with area coverage as illustrated in drawings A to D (Fig.1).



While most thimbles served a functional purpose, examples F & I are marked by 2 puncture holes in the collar and were most likely sewn onto a costume as a decoration. The diameters of the thimbles range from 10.5 to 20 mm. with an average of 16.1 mm. Lengths vary from 14.5 to 25.2 mm, with an average from 16.9 mm. These measurements represent a greater range than those of 41 thimbles (Dated 1760-80) from Fort Michilimackinac (Stone 1974), while the average measurements were quite similar.



Drawings Actual Size